

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS: PAINT STRIPPING AND MISCELLANEOUS SURFACE COATING OPERATIONS AT AREA SOURCES

ACTION

- On September 6, 2007, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued proposed air toxics standards for smaller emitting sources, called area sources, in three industry sectors that involve paint stripping and surface coating operations.
- Area sources are those that have the potential to emit less than 10 tons per year of a single toxic air pollutant or less than 25 tons per year of any combination of toxic air pollutants. If sources emit more than these amounts, they are called 'major' sources.
- The proposed standards apply to area sources that engage in:
 - ▶ paint stripping operations that use methylene chloride (MeCl)-containing paint stripping formulations and
 - ▶ surface coating operations that involve paints that contain metal HAP compounds
 - ▶ autobody refinishing
- Existing area sources that would be affected by the rule would need to implement equipment and management practices to comply with these standards, if they have not already done so. These practices are designed to reduce overall toxic material consumption, which generally results in a savings to the facility, as well.
- Many of these facilities have already implemented such equipment and management practices in order to reduce their operating costs. We anticipate that many facilities that have not yet implemented these practices will realize an overall cost savings.
- For paint stripping operations, the proposed rules would also require new and existing area sources to implement management practices that minimize evaporative loss of MeCl. Existing area sources consuming more than 150 gallons per year of paint stripping formulation must also develop and implement a minimization plan designed to reduce their consumption of MeCl by identifying alternatives, when possible.
- For surface coating operations, the proposed rule would also require new and existing area sources to implement equipment and management practices that minimize the amount of coating required and to capture toxic metal particulates from the process. The toxic metal compounds are those containing cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese and nickel. The equipment practices include confining spray operations to within a properly filtered spray booth or preparation station, using high volume low pressure or equivalent spray equipment, and either cleaning spray guns manually or by using an enclosed spray gun washer. The

management practices include proper training and certification of HVLP equipment operators.

BACKGROUND

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify categories of sources that emit one or more listed 188 toxic air pollutants. These categories include both major and area sources.
- The air toxics emitted from area sources in these source categories include MeCl, and metal compounds containing cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese and nickel. Exposure to these compounds may cause cancer, central nervous system, respiratory system, and reproductive effects; kidney damage; and acute health disorders such as respiratory and skin irritation.
- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify the toxic air pollutants that pose a health threat in the largest number of urban areas and to regulate sufficient area source categories to ensure that the emissions of these “urban” air toxics are reduced. EPA implements these requirements through the Integrated Urban Air Toxics Strategy.
- Each of the source categories included in today’s proposed rules are included on the area source category list.
- For area sources within each source category, the Clean Air Act allows EPA to develop standards or requirements which provide for the use of generally available control technologies (GACT) or management practices rather than the maximum achievable control technology (MACT) required for major sources.
- The proposed air toxics rules are being developed in response to the requirements in section 112(k) of the Clean Air Act and are being issued at this time in response to a court order that directs EPA to issue final rules for area sources every 6 months.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To download a copy of the notice, go to EPA’s Worldwide Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html>
- Today’s proposed rule and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, EPA’s electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center’s Public Reading Room.
 - The Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

- Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector, and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
- Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0526.
- HOW TO COMMENT: Comments should be identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0526 and submitted by one of the following methods:
 - Federal eRulemaking Portal (<http://www.regulations.gov>)
 - E-mail (a-and-r-docket@epa.gov)
 - Mail (EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460), or
 - Hand delivery (EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC).
- For further information about the proposed rules, contact Mr. Warren Johnson of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5124 or johnson.warren@epa.gov.